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REQUEST FOR THE INCLUSION OF AN ADDITIONAL ITEM IN THE AGENDA OF THE FORTY-NINTH SESSION

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

Letter dated 5 December 1994 from the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from our respective Governments and pursuant to rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, we have the honour to request the inclusion in the agenda of the forty-ninth session of the General Assembly of an additional item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

An explanatory memorandum (see annex) and a draft resolution (see appendix) in support of the above request accompany the present letter, pursuant to rule 20 of the rules of the procedure of the General Assembly.

(Signed) Lionel A. HURST
Permanent Representative of
Antigua and Barbuda to the
United Nations

(Signed) Harcourt L. TURNQUEST
Permanent Representative of the
Bahamas to the United Nations

(Signed) E. Besley MAYCOCK
Permanent Representative of
Barbados to the United Nations

(Signed) Edward A. LAING
Permanent Representative of
Belize to the United Nations

(Signed) Simon Paul RICHARDS
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Dominica
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(Signed) Eugene M. PURSOO
Permanent Representative of
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(Signed) Samuel R. INSANALLY
Permanent Representative of
Guyana to the United Nations

(Signed) Lucille Mathurin MAIR
Permanent Representative of
Jamaica to the United Nations

(Signed) Raymond TAYLOR
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the
Permanent Mission of Saint Kitts
and Nevis to the United Nations

(Signed) George William ODLUM
Permanent Representative of
Saint Lucia to the United Nations

(Signed) Herbert G. V. YOUNG
Permanent Representative of
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
to the United Nations

(Signed) Annette des ILES
Permanent Representative of
Trinidad and Tobago to the
United Nations

ANNEX

Explanatory memorandum

1. By its resolution 46/8 of 16 October 1991, the General Assembly granted observer status in the Assembly to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

2. At its 15 meeting, held from 4 to 7 July 1994 in Barbados, the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM decided on the desirability of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of CARICOM and the United Nations.

3. The primary purposes of CARICOM, established by the Treaty of Chaguaramas in July 1973, are the economic integration of member States; functional cooperation, including in the areas of common services and social, cultural and technological development; and the coordination of the foreign policies of member States.

4. Increasingly, CARICOM has been engaged in the deepening of the economic integration process among its member States, as well as the widening of that process. Recently, CARICOM has taken the initiative in the promotion of the Association of Caribbean States, which brings together other States and territories of the wider Caribbean.

5. The CARICOM secretariat has been making an important contribution to the enhancement of cooperation for sustainable development. It has helped to strengthen the involvement of CARICOM in and optimize the impact on the region of the work of the United Nations in such areas as poverty alleviation, job creation, human resource development, trade and economic diversification, the empowerment of women in the economic and legal fields, health development and the sustainable development of small island developing States.

6. In the political field, the CARICOM secretariat has assisted in the coordination of foreign policy positions and activities in areas of importance to member States, such as hemispheric and regional affairs, including the promotion of democracy and human rights in Haiti. CARICOM has been united and consistent in its support for the attainment of independence in Namibia and the elimination of apartheid in South Africa.

7. CARICOM shares the view that peace, security, human rights, democracy and development are interrelated. Through a closer working relationship between the CARICOM secretariat and the United Nations, the former can enhance its contribution to the elaboration and implementation of policies and programmes designed to address, in an integrated and comprehensive manner, the varied challenges facing the region and the community of nations at large.

8. A closer working relationship between both organizations in areas of mutual interest would be of benefit to CARICOM member States, as well as to the wider membership of the United Nations.

APPENDIX

Draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/8 of 16 October 1991, by which it granted observer status to the Caribbean Community,

Recalling also that the purposes of the United Nations are, inter alia, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Recalling further that the Charter of the United Nations provides for the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters as maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind that the Treaty of Chaguaramas, signed at Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago, on 4 July 1973, 1/ which established the Caribbean Community, created a permanent body for intra-regional cooperation, consultation and coordination in order to enhance economic, social and cultural development, including the optimum utilization of available human resources for sustainable development,

Taking into account the reports of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace" 2/ and "An Agenda for Development" 3/ and the related consultations within the United Nations and regional organizations on those subjects,

Taking note of the communiqué of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, held at Bridgetown from 4 to 7 July 1994, 4/

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community in the areas of economic and social development, as well as of political and humanitarian affairs,

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1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 946, No. 13489.

2/ A/47/277-S/24111.

3/ A/48/935.

4/ A/49/229, annex.

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote common objectives of the two organizations,

1. Takes note of the decision of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community on the desirability of strengthening cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Caribbean Community, as well as their request for the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community to pursue that matter with the Secretary-General of the United Nations; 5/

2. Invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between both secretariats in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their common objectives;

3. Requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, to promote meetings between their representatives for consultations on policies, projects, measures and procedures that will facilitate and broaden cooperation and coordination between them;

4. Urges the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-first session an item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

5/ See A/49/229, annex.